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P94W32. UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
U.S. Production and Marketing Administration1954 WHEAT MARKETING QUOTAS  
Suggested News Release No. 1

## WHEAT QUOTAS PROCLAIMED BY AGRICULTURE SECRETARY

Recent proclamation of a national wheat marketing quota by Secretary of Agriculture Ezra Taft Benson means that wheat farmers will soon be called on to decide whether to use controls in marketing their 1954 crop.

\_\_\_\_\_, Chairman of the State Production and Marketing Administration Committee, reminds farmers that a referendum on the quotas will be held August 14. At least two-thirds of the farmers voting must approve quotas before they can be put into effect.

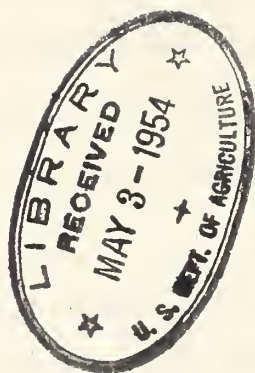
At issue also is the level at which the Government will support the price for the 1954 wheat crop. Legislation directs supports at 90 percent of parity if quotas are approved. However, if farmers disapprove marketing quotas, the support drops, according to law, to 50 percent of parity to those farmers who comply with their wheat acreage allotments.

Officials point out that the Secretary had little choice in the matter of issuing the wheat quota proclamation. Legislation directs that such a proclamation be made whenever the total supply of wheat exceeds the normal supply by more than 20 percent. The normal supply consists of estimated domestic consumption plus exports plus a 15-percent reserve.

The supply of wheat this year is now estimated at about 1,760 million bushels, about 370 million more than the quantity at which a national marketing quota proclamation is mandatory.

All wheat farmers who are subject to quotas are eligible to vote in the wheat referendum, Mr. \_\_\_\_\_ explained. A farmer is subject to the quotas generally if the acreage classified as wheat on the farm in 1954 is more than 15 acres, or if the farm has a normal production of 200 bushels or more on the acreage planted for harvest.

Wheat acreage allotments will be in effect for the 1954 crop of wheat. Allotments are not affected by the outcome of the quota referendum.



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1954 WHEAT MARKETING QUOTAS  
Suggested News Release No. 2

DROP IN EXPORTS BRINGS WHEAT QUOTAS ON '54 CROP

A drop in U. S. wheat exports, combined with large production, is the main reason for the piling up of wheat supplies and proclamation of marketing quotas for the 1954 wheat crop, \_\_\_\_\_, Chairman of the State Production and Marketing Administration said today.

Even if 1953-54 wheat exports reach the 315 million bushels estimated for 1952-53, they would still be well below 1951-52 exports of 448 million bushels. Largest U. S. wheat exports were in 1948, when 506 million bushels were shipped abroad.

Wheat production, on the other hand, was large last year not only in this country but throughout the world, so there is less tendency for the wheat-importing countries to stockpile wheat. World trade is now expected to drop about 10 percent this year, and to continue declining in the next marketing year.

The U. S. wheat crop for 1953 is now estimated at about 1,175 million bushels. Added to the carry-over of 580 million bushels and estimated imports of 5 million bushels, the total U. S. supply of wheat for the 1953-54 marketing year is indicated at about 1,760 million bushels -- setting a new record high.

Existing provisions of law are intended to assure enough wheat to meet all our needs but not to accumulate over-supplies. The Secretary of Agriculture is therefore directed to proclaim marketing quotas for wheat when the total supply exceeds the normal supply by more than 20 percent. The "normal supply" this year is estimated at 1,156 million bushels, covering indicated domestic consumption and exports plus 15 percent. So the total supply is more than 50 percent larger than the normal supply.

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Agriculture-Washington

News Release No. 2 (Continued)

Proclamation of quotas is only the first step, Mr. \_\_\_\_\_ explained. A referendum of farmers must be held on the question, and at least two-thirds of those voting must approve before the quotas can be put into effect. This referendum will be held on August 14. Any farmer who does not know whether he is eligible to vote in the referendum should see his County PMA Committee.

Farm acreage allotments, representing the acreage needed to produce each farm's share of the national marketing quota, have been or will be mailed to local farmers by the County PMA Committee.

The outcome of the referendum will not affect acreage allotments, which will be in effect for the 1954 wheat crop.

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7/17/53



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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
Production and Marketing Administration

1954 WHEAT MARKETING QUOTAS  
Suggested News Release No. 3

PMA CHAIRMAN ANSWERS QUOTA QUERIES

With the referendum on wheat quotas for the 1954 crop only \_\_\_\_\_ days away, many questions about quotas and allotments are being asked by \_\_\_\_\_ County farmers of the PMA committee, (Name), Chairman, said today.

Pointing up some of the highlights of answers to questions on the program, Mr. \_\_\_\_\_ explained that the result of the referendum determines the amount and extent of price support the wheat farmer will receive on his 1954 crop. All wheat farmers whose farms are subject to quotas are eligible to vote in the referendum. And a farm is subject to quotas if the acreage to be planted and classified as wheat acreage under the program in 1954 is more than 15 acres and if the normal production is 200 bushels or more. It's up to the wheat farmers themselves to decide whether the quota is to be made effective or not.

Many of the questions coming into the office are on the effect of the referendum on price supports. Chairman \_\_\_\_\_ gives this brief answer: If more than one-third of the votes are against quotas, price supports of farmers who plant within their farm wheat acreage allotments will be only 50 percent of parity. Support is not required for farmers who overplant their allotted acreage.

However, should two-thirds or more vote for quotas, those who plant within their wheat farm acreage allotment will be eligible for Commodity Credit Corporation price supports at 90 percent of parity. Those whose wheat acreage exceeds the wheat acreage allotment will be subject to a marketing penalty of 45 percent of the wheat parity price as of May 1, 1954 for each bushel of excess wheat.

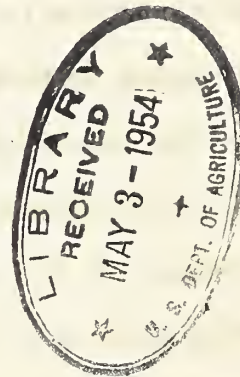
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Agriculture-Washington

News Release No. 3 (Continued)

Questions on allotments are common ones, too, the PMA Chairman reports. He explains that the national allotment has been set by recent amendment to the law at 62 million acres. This national acreage allotment has been apportioned among the States and counties on the basis of acreage seeded to wheat during the preceding 10 years with adjustments made for weather factors and trends. Finally the county acreage allotment is assigned, as it was in \_\_\_\_\_ County during the past \_\_\_\_\_ weeks, to all farmers that grew wheat in any one of the years 1951, 1952, or 1953, and to eligible new farms.

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Production and Marketing Administration

1954 WHEAT MARKETING QUOTAS  
Suggested News Release No. 4

\_\_\_\_\_ COUNTY WHEAT ACREAGE ALLOTMENTS EXPLAINED

Acreage allotments are the backbone of the recently proclaimed marketing quotas to be voted upon by eligible \_\_\_\_\_ County wheat growers in the August 14 referendum, (Name), county chairman, said today. If approved by at least two-thirds of the wheat growers of the Nation voting in the referendum quotas and allotments will become effective on the 1954 wheat crop. The result of the referendum also determines the amount and extent of price support the farmer will be eligible to receive.

In general, Chairman \_\_\_\_\_ explains, all (county) farms on which wheat was grown in 1951, 1952, or 1953 will be assigned an acreage allotment. In making these allotments, consideration is given to the number of tillable acres on the farm, the crop rotation practices followed (including acreage planted to wheat), type of soil and slope and lay of the land.

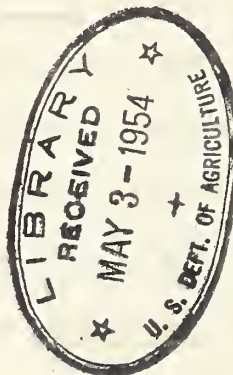
For the past (number) weeks the county committee has been obtaining data on each farm's past and current wheat production.

The allotment for \_\_\_\_\_ County farmers is worked out from the basis of the national allotment. The national acreage allotment for the 1954 crop is 62 million acres. Production from the allotment plus carry-over will provide more than enough wheat in 1954, together with the estimated imports, to meet domestic and export needs plus the 30 percent required by law. The national acreage allotment is then apportioned among States and counties according to acreage seeded to wheat during the latest 10-year average, adjusted for trends and other factors.

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Chairman \_\_\_\_\_ advised that any farmer who believes his wheat acreage allotment is not accurate may appeal to the county committee. If he is not satisfied with the county committee's decision he may appeal to a review committee of three farmers appointed by the Secretary of Agriculture which will consider the evidence and make a decision. If not satisfied with this decision, the farmer may, within 15 days, initiate proceedings for a review of the case by a court.

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
Production and Marketing Administration

1954 WHEAT MARKETING QUOTAS  
Suggested News Release No. 5

WHEAT REFERENDUM SET FOR AUGUST 14

The wheat marketing quota referendum to be held August 14 will be conducted at \_\_\_\_\_ voting places in \_\_\_\_\_ County, advises Chairman \_\_\_\_\_ of the County Production and Marketing Administration Committee. Polling places will be open from \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_, and each will be in charge of a local referendum committee of wheat growers appointed by the County PMA Committee.

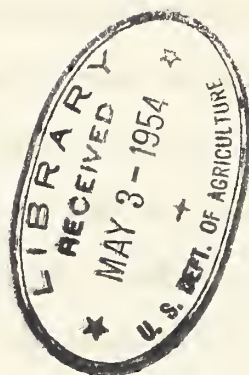
Chairman \_\_\_\_\_ urges every eligible wheat grower to vote, since the outcome of the referendum will materially affect the price farmers receive for their 1954 wheat. He points out that if two-thirds or more of those voting favor marketing quotas, wheat loans at 90 percent of parity will be available to those who plant within their wheat acreage allotments.

If marketing quotas are rejected by the growers, quotas will not be in effect and the support rate on 1954 wheat will drop to 50 percent of parity for cooperators.

Acreage allotments will be in effect for the 1954 wheat crop regardless of the outcome of the referendum, he explains. If marketing quotas are in effect, those who exceed their allotments must store or dispose of their excess wheat as directed by the Secretary or pay the marketing penalty on the excess wheat. The marketing penalty is 45 percent of wheat parity as of May 1, 1954.

The officially designated polling places for the August 14 wheat referendum in \_\_\_\_\_ County are: (List polling places)

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Production and Marketing Administration

1954 WHEAT MARKETING QUOTAS  
Suggested News Release No. 6

REFERENDUM WILL DETERMINE WHEAT SUPPORT LEVEL

If growers disapprove wheat marketing quotas in the August 14 referendum, price support loans for the 1954 crop wheat will be greatly reduced.

According to \_\_\_\_\_, chairman of the \_\_\_\_\_ Production and Marketing Administration Committee, if quotas are turned down, the price support loan will be cut almost in two, and the loan will be available only for those who do not exceed their wheat acreage allotments. Those who exceed their allotments have no assurance of any price support.

This, according to Chairman \_\_\_\_\_, is the decision which \_\_\_\_\_ county wheat growers will be up against when they vote in the referendum. If quotas are approved, and it takes a two-thirds majority to approve, wheat loans to cooperators will be at 90 percent of parity. If the vote is unfavorable, the loan to cooperators will be 50 percent of parity. Parity as of June 15 was \$2.42 a bushel.

The chairman explains that the program applies to all farms where the seeded wheat acreage is more than 15 acres and where the normal production on the acreage seeded is 200 bushels or more. Farmers having an interest in the wheat grown on such farms are eligible to vote in the referendum. Voting places in \_\_\_\_\_ county will be announced later.

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